Amendments to the Claims:

1.   (Currently amended)   A system for periodically moving information units from a
plurality of sources to an output destination based on information stored about
each of the plurality of sources, the system comprising:

a time-based calendar which handles some of the information units based on the
information stored about the plurality of sources;

a time-independent calendar which handles other of the information units based
on information stored about the plurality of sources and which places each source ~~flow~~
into a ~~queue~~ calendar location and which moves the source ~~flow~~ to a different place in
the ~~queue~~ calendar after servicing the source ~~flow~~; and

a mechanism for determining when a flow is added to the ~~time-based queue~~
source whether that source was at a location ~~flow has had a place~~ in the time-based
~~queue~~ calendar and preventing the source ~~flow~~ from ~~achieving a better place~~ being
placed at a location ahead of a calculated location in the time-based calendar ~~queue as~~
~~a result of disconnecting and reconnecting~~.

2. (Currently amended) A method of ~~placing~~ servicing data flows placed into a queue
for service in turn comprising:

determining whether a ~~data flow~~ queue had a previous position in a calendar ~~the~~
~~queue~~;

if the ~~data flow~~ queue had a previous position in the calendar ~~queue~~, determining
whether ~~the~~ a new position which would be assigned to it is ~~better~~ earlier than ~~the~~
~~previous~~ a previously calculated new position in the calendar ~~queue~~;

if the new position which would be assigned is ~~better~~ earlier than the ~~previous~~ previously calculated new position, using the ~~previous~~ previously calculated new position;

and, if the ~~previous~~ previously calculated new position is not ~~better~~ earlier than the position which would be assigned, using the position which would be assigned.

3.   (Currently amended) A method including ~~the steps of~~ Claim 2 and further including considering the aging of the queue to determine whether the stored parameters remain valid.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (New) The system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of sources include a plurality of queues.

6.   (New) The system of claim 1 or claim 5 wherein the calculated location includes the location whereat the queue would have been attached upstream from the location whereat said queue was last serviced.

7.   (New) The method of claim 2 wherein using includes attaching the queue to the selected location.

8.   (New) The method of claim 6 wherein the stored parameter includes time stamps.

9.   (New)   A system comprising:

a time-based calendar which handles some of a plurality of information units based on the information stored about a plurality of sources; and

a mechanism for determining when a flow is added to a source whether that source was at a location in the time-based calendar and preventing the source from being placed at a location ahead of a predefined location in the time-based calendar.

10.   (New)   A method comprising:

providing at least one time based calendar having a plurality of locations and a time pointer moving relative to the plurality of locations as a result of scheduler ticks;

attaching a queue to a first calendar location whereat the time pointer is pointing;

servicing said queue by causing a frame to be transmitted from said queue whereupon said queue goes empty;

identifying a second location whereat the queue would have been re-attached had it not gone empty;

examining pre-defined characteristics associated with said queue to determine occupancy frames within said queue;

if examination indicates the queue is not empty, identifying a current location whereat the time pointer points;

correlating the current location of the time pointer and the second location; and

selecting a location which is not earlier than the second location.

11.   (New)   The method of claim 10 wherein the not emptied queue is attached to the selected location.

12.   (New)   The method of claims 10 or 11 wherein the queue is attached by writing the i.d. (Identification number) of said queue in a stack located at each location.

13.   (New)   The method of claim 12 wherein the stack is a Last In First Out (LIFO) stack.